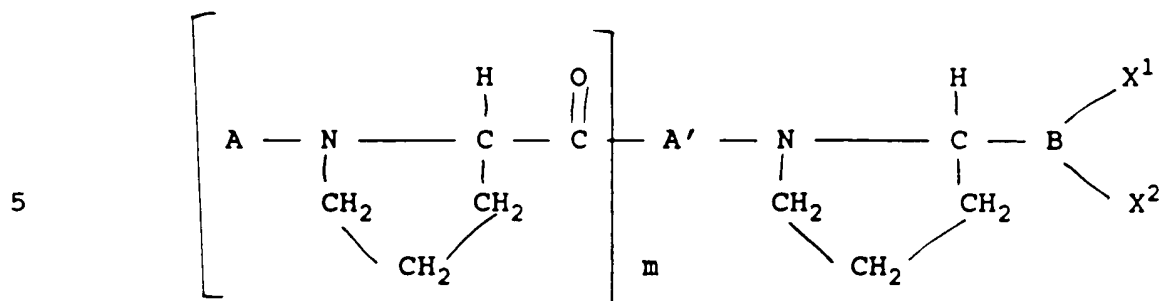


Claims:

- 23 -

1. An inhibitor of DP-IV, having the structure:



wherein  $m$  is an integer between 0 and 10, inclusive; A and A' are L-amino acid residues such that the A in each repeating bracketed unit can be a different amino acid residue; the C bonded to B is in the L-configuration; the bonds between A and N, A and C, and between A and N are peptide bonds; and each  $\text{X}^1$  and  $\text{X}^2$  is, independently, a hydroxyl group or a group capable of being hydrolysed to a hydroxyl group at physiological pH.

- 15            2. The inhibitor of claim 1 wherein A and A' are independently proline or alanine residues.

3. The inhibitor of claim 1 wherein  $m$  is 0.

4. The inhibitor of claim 1 wherein  $\text{X}^1$  and  $\text{X}^2$  are hydroxyl groups.

- 20            5. The inhibitor of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor is L-Ala-L-boroPro.

6. The inhibitor of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor is L-Pro-L-boroPro.